Agenda Item 1. Call to Order

Board President Clint Cogswell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of Agenda

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the agenda with the adjustment that the Board also approve the minutes from January 31 and February 16 when the Board met on a personnel matter (motioned by Jennifer Patterson, seconded by Tom Croteau).

Agenda Item 3. Recognitions

Distinguished Educators:

Mill Brook School – Barbara Hemingway. “Some would say that after 31 years educating the youngest population in Concord School District, one would automatically be considered distinguished. Just being present at work each day, however, was never how Barbara Hemingway approached her 31 years here. She has not only dedicated herself to the Concord Developmental Preschool, but to the children and families it serves. Her wealth of knowledge about students and families can be traced back many years: when a question comes up about a new student entering the Pre-K program, Barbara knows something about nearly every family and their experience at the Concord Developmental Preschool. Always putting the child first, she has excelled at working with staff and families to identify resources and the most appropriate level of services for students requiring special education services. Barbara has provided learning opportunities for preschool program staff, been a mentor, a colleague, a friend, and always present to step in when needed. She mentors each new staff person, ensuring they understand the developmental needs of students arriving at age 3. As a colleague,
she has been willing to learn, taking the time to listen to the administration, her staff and families to make the best decisions. The high level of collaboration in the program has been integral to its success, and these characteristics will be tough to match going forward. Barbara will have many memories of the program, but her goal was to create something special, and she certainly has done this – thank you for 31 years of service!”

Broken Ground School – Jane Dodson. “Jane Dodson is a creative, dedicated, and inspiring educator who strives to make learning relevant and fun – she models an enthusiasm for learning and life that is contagious for her students and colleagues. Jane is always looking for the next opportunity to enhance students’ experience by writing grants, developing new projects, pursuing creative ideas, or attending professional training. Her positive attitude and high energy make working with Jane an adventure. She is an instructional leader at BGS and on the district reading team. Teachers value her insight and ideas to help even the most reluctant learners become successful. She sets high academic standards for all students and shares her expertise to engage teachers in a goal-oriented collaborative process. Her reflective nature and natural curiosity facilitate school improvement discussions. Jane has mentored many BGS teachers and supports first-year teachers by co-teaching reading in their classes. Every summer, she participates in summer curriculum development projects. Thanks to her efforts, BGS has started each year with a school-wide read-aloud book which teachers have shared with their classes. These read-aloud lessons provide teachers detailed information about their students’ reading skills, and engage students in rigorous discussions about text. Through a Concord Chamber of Commerce grant, Jane opened the BGS school store, in which students are not only hired but trained by Jane in customer service and using their math skills. Jane organizes the BGS Yearbook; offers the after-school Krypto Club; serves as the emcee for the annual Lip Sync Show in February; and holds the annual Pet Fair, when students bring their pets to school as a fundraiser for the SPCA! She offers opportunities for parents to learn about Title I services, and creative ways for students to showcase their reading progress and learning for their families. “Breakfast and Books” and her theme-based literary cafes are always well-attended events. Jane always has a new idea up her sleeve; for example, last summer Mrs. Dodson provided a new spark for the Summer Literacy Program by setting up a camp in the school library – students started each morning by the “campfire,” reading jokes and singing songs. In partnership with Pope Memorial SPCA, these campers spent time each week reading to rabbits, dogs and ferrets. We are proud to recognize her many talents as a Concord Distinguished Educator for 2017.”

Beaver Meadow School – Melisa Scott. “Melisa Scott is a highly respected, innovative leader. Her dedication to the professional growth of staff and students is inspirational. She models the ideals of a growth mindset, continuously seeks ways to improve her pedagogy, and strengthens her colleagues’ skills. She is a passionate teacher who loves to share her knowledge, mentoring new teachers and volunteers to support staff professional development. It is pure joy to witness her distinguished, instructional skills and how students respond to these amazing talents. BMS would not be the forward-thinking, caring, nurturing school it is without the strong supportive foundation that
our extraordinary educator Melisa Scott is responsible for building. Melisa has offered afterschool workshops that provide teaching and tech tips on best ways to integrate technology, and she has introduced innovative programs and apps that enhance engagement. As an active member of both the leadership and the PBIS teams, she has collaborated to create an Innovation Plan. Her suggestions and ideas have enhanced BMS’ climate and culture in an optimistic direction. Melisa created a PBIS teaching video, which was ranked in the top 25 at the global PBIS conference this year! she has taken a leadership role in planning the presentations for monthly all school meetings, and volunteered to assist the students who presented at the February School Board meeting, which received high compliments from Board members and the community. At the district level, she is an OGAP trainer and recently volunteered to become BMS’ Project Lead the Way trainer. Melisa is responsible for scheduling state assessments, and oversees all the preparational details that involve technological resources. The staff would describe Melisa as a silk thread in the fabric of our school: on any given day, one could observe her team teaching a STEM lesson in one classroom; providing a teacher with additional support in developing cross-curricular lessons; in another classroom teaching kindergarten students the process to log into their Lexia accounts; and sitting with a child having a discussion on a book recommendation. She challenges students, and they rise to her high expectations. She models universal respect and genuine sense of caring for each of them, and they love her. Melisa is passionate about her own learning – just recently, she has taken two online courses and currently holds three certificates. When something that pertains to recent staff meeting topics or school climate work resonates with her, she has shared with the principal related articles and highlights. It is with pleasure that Melisa Scott is named a Distinguished Educator for 2017.”

Rundlett Middle School – Ann Rines. “It is with immense pride that we recognize and honor Ann Rines as recipient of this year’s Distinguished Educator Award. Ann is a 39-year servant to Concord’s youth and her work in the District has shaped the lives of countless students. Throughout her career, she has effectively cared about kids. Ask any teacher, parent or student and they will invariably desire that the person working with them in the classroom have the capacity to demonstrate they “care” about the individual person first. We all know that learning is dependent on relationship in so many ways. What matters, however, is in the effectiveness or impact of that caring. Does it transfer to the student? Does it assist them in forming their own aspirations? Ann has effectively cared about youth, and the evidence can be seen everywhere in the RMS community because her effective care has helped transform lives and opened previously unseen doors. Ann has lived a professional life that represents what education can be and should be; a life of effectively caring about students in a way that changes them positively. She has served the District as a teacher, reading specialist, and RMS administrator during a career spanning 39 years. Throughout that time, she has modeled first and foremost “caring about the child.” Ann has been instrumental in the development and implementation of literacy programs; has served tirelessly on the district’s LARC Team; has shepherded the Lucy Caulkins Units for Writing that are
currently used at RMS; has been the building leader in ELL and Title I for the past 8 years; has been responsible for shaping programming for ELL and also the neediest learners. As she prepares to retire, folks from around Blue Duke Nation will reflect on her significant impact on curricula, on inclusion, on discipline and on how-anyone-can-manage-supervising-three-lunches-a-day-in-our-cafeteria-for-so-long-without-going-insane. But what will be forever fixed in our minds is that Ann cares about kids effectively. She reaches them where they are, and brings them to a better place. She teaches them to understand the value of learning and builds relationships, including with students who previously have not been able to trust in adults due to their life experiences. Ann Rines is our Distinguished Educator of the Year; she is also a role model who has dedicated her career to positively transforming the lives of young people.”

Concord High School – Jonathan Flower. “Jonathan Flower is completing his 20th year of service as a school counselor at CHS. Regardless of the Commons to which he has been assigned – A, B, D or W – Jonathan’s professionalism, genuine care for students, and dedication to building a vibrant school community have remained consistent, firmly set as the touchstone of his work with CHS faculty, students, and families. Helping adolescents to understand and meet the challenges of growing up and developing into healthy young men and women is work that Jonathan joyfully embraces. Whether he is speaking to a group of incoming freshmen, assisting families with understanding the financial aid process, or helping students develop their post-secondary plans, Jonathan is there to listen, and to provide feedback, guidance, and reassurance. While not surprisingly the job of a school counselor involves a significant amount of paperwork, including letters of recommendation, school and inter-agency reports, and responding to emails, Jonathan never allows this aspect of his work to overshadow what matters most: connecting with students. Whether meeting with a group of students at lunch, talking with a student who has a scheduled appointment or someone who has stuck their head in to see Mr. Flower “just because,” Jonathan will find the time to be present. He consistently shows respect, empathy, and fairness to students. His leadership, intellectual curiosity, and desire to improve programs and increase opportunities for students are qualities that promote genuine professional relationships. In both formal and informal meetings, Jonathan contributes valuable ideas and expertise to teacher teams to further the school and District’s mission. Over the years, he has developed the expertise needed to design the school’s master schedule, which requires not only the mind of the master puzzler, but also a tremendous amount of patience and collaboration. Jonathan brings positive energy and leadership to this work. For the past seven years, he has coached the Concord Tide’s Girls Varsity Volleyball team. Both on and off the court, Coach Flower strives to impart – through word and example – a love for the game and the values of sportsmanship, dedication, hard work and respect. Jonathan is a professional who communicates respectfully and proactively with parents, is consistently sensitive to families’ diverse needs, and makes sure that parents hear positive news about their students. CHS is both privileged and fortunate to have Jonathan Flower as a member of its faculty. Recognizing him as a Distinguished
Educator seems like a humble tribute for a teacher who has had such a positive impact on so many young lives.”

Concord High School – Jeff Fullam. “Jeff Fullam has been a member of the CHS faculty for 18 years. He holds a BA in Philosophy from Swarthmore College; a BFA in Painting from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University; an MA in Art and an MFA in Painting from the University of Iowa. Over the course of his teaching career, he has taught Art to both middle and high school students, and since 1999, Jeff has invested his many talents in teaching CHS students. An exceptional educator committed to the needs of all students, Jeff has earned the respect and esteem of his colleagues – his classroom is a place where students discover not only the beauty and power of expression through the visual arts but also the joy of learning. His knowledge of how students learn promotes a positive classroom environment as well as professional discussion among his peers. Consistently, Jeff fosters strong relationships with students and staff to support an effective and caring learning environment; his sense of humor and infectious laughter are never in short supply. He has been involved in the Scholastic Art Awards of New Hampshire program, which fosters creative expression and artistic achievement in students grade 7 through 12, giving generously of his time and personal resources to nurture and advance the artistic talent of students. Jeff is about creating opportunities for students – if a student has an idea for a mural, Mr. Fullam is sure to find, not only a barren wall in need of a splash of color, but also the time for additional mentoring. Whether advising a group of students in the National Art Society or chaperoning a trip to New York City so students can explore some of the world’s greatest museums, Jeff is a teacher who regularly goes beyond what is expected. In addition to being an active member of the Art Department, he serves as a Curriculum Facilitator, providing leadership for the Art and PE/Wellness departments. His ability to listen and to understand differing viewpoints, in a calm thoughtful manner, promotes discussion and builds consensus. In an unassuming manner, he encourages teachers to strive for excellence. His strong work ethic and high expectations for self are powerful examples that promote excellence. Have you ever considered serving on a committee for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges? Talk to Jeff. He has become quite the expert on this topic. Jeff’s contributions as a member of the NEASC Steering Committee for CHS, as well as his participation on NEASC visitation teams, speak not only of his commitment to the CHS community but also of his desire to engage in thoughtful reflection and collaboration to foster academic, social and civic growth for students. Jeff’s commitment to these beliefs is not limited to NEASC committee work – he has given generously to school and District committees including the CHS Advisory Committee and the District’s K-12 Art department. Pablo Picasso once said, “The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life off our souls.” As an artist himself, and as a teacher, Jeff shares his talent in such a way that we are given the eyes to see things anew. He embodies what it means to be a lifelong learner: last summer, Jeff participated in an international artist residency program in Berlin, Germany. During the month of July, he worked with approximately 20 other visual artists and writers from around the world visiting art galleries, making art and conducting formal art critiques. His
participation in the artist residency program broadens his own expertise and enriches our students’ classroom experience. It is with deep gratitude and great pride that Jeff Fullam is recognized as a Distinguished Educator for 2017.”

Concord High School – Val Koch. “It is our honor to recognize Val Koch as a 2017 Distinguished Educator. Val is the teacher for the CRTC Teacher Preparation program, which supports students on a career pathway to be employed, after their post-secondary studies, in the education field as Pre-K-12 teachers, counselors and specialists. Like all CTE programs, the person and the program are intertwined. Under Val’s dedicated leadership, the Teacher Preparation program has grown in leaps and bounds. Val’s skills have likewise blossomed – and interestingly, Val is also a graduate of the program she teaches. When she attended as a student, and even when she began teaching in 2000, the program’s focus was targeted to preschool teaching assistants. Like all CTE programs, the scope has widened considerably over the past 10+ years with a clear objective to train future career professionals – and Val has led this transformation. She has created deep programmatic ties with Southern New Hampshire University’s Education Department, in which Teacher Prep students can earn 16 concurrent college credits in education classes – essentially more than a semester of college – over their two years in the program, giving CHS students a huge head start. Teacher Prep students engage in at least a 12-week internship/job shadow during their second year; for Val, maintaining, as well as finding new relationships with two dozen or so mentors, is an incredibly taxing undertaking requiring constant care and upkeep. These invaluable work-based learning experiences prepare students for their leap to post-secondary education (and then to careers) with the necessary confidence and skills to succeed. Val and preschool teacher Jennifer Strong-Rain manage the Crimson Tide Lab Preschool. First-year Teacher Prep students, with guidance and oversight from Val and Jen, design and deliver their very first lessons in the Tide Preschool. This is where students quickly realize, in a trial-by-fire manner, that preparation and professionalism truly matter. Val supports them through this emotional, energizing and always reflective endeavor. The curriculum for Teacher Preparation, including books read, remarkably parallels much of what the District’s professional teachers do presently. This ranges from UbD lesson planning to understanding how the brain works (Brain Rules) to learning about special needs (Lost at School) and engaging in CPI training to demonstrating classroom management (Teach Like a Champion). On a statewide level, Val has been the catalyst for New Hampshire to adopt Educators Rising, as the statewide Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) for all New Hampshire’s Teacher Preparation students. Educators Rising provides a research-driven progressive sharing network for future teachers. Val provided the leadership and put in the arduous work to offer the first-ever Educators Rising Conference this past October at NHTI, with attendance from over 350 statewide CTE Teacher Prep students. In addition, a multi-activity statewide future teacher competition took place this spring, with Val’s leadership, with 75 competitors from eight different CTE schools. Val will be voluntarily chaperoning a team of CRTC students who either won the competition, or who have taken on statewide officer roles in Educators Rising NH, to the national conference in Phoenix Arizona in June. She has
become a recognized leader of teacher professional development, an influential colleague, and leader within the CRTC, mentoring numerous teachers from other NH CTE centers and sharing all her curriculum work without reservation. Finally, she is also the lead teacher for statewide CTE Boot Camp to orient new CTE teachers. To state what is obvious, Val has matured as a leader in her 16 years at CRTC. We are proud to call her a 2017 Distinguished Educator.”

Student Board representative Esther Elonga noted that the ELL program recently hosted a “St. Paul’s parent information night” to inform parents/students about its Advanced Studies Program each summer, for which students must apply during their junior year. She also noted that Ms. DiPasquale took students to UNH for a campus tour, which was beneficial to both accepted and potential students. A new Chinese Club was formed to help students become aware of Chinese culture. The recent Week of Action included Be the Change Club; Tide Pride’s Day of Silence, and Environmental Club activities. An upcoming student-led Diversity Dance will be held after school. International Night on May 19 will celebrate diverse cultures, and the community is invited to participate.

Agenda Item 4. Public Comment– agenda items only
There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 5. Approval of Board Minutes
Mr. Cogswell reviewed the minutes of the regular monthly meeting on April 3.
Champions for Children – accomplishments of that meeting

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting on April 3 (moved by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Croteau).

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the minutes of the public portion of the non-public meetings on January 31 and February 16 on a personnel matter (moved by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Nathan Fennessy).

Agenda Item 6. Personnel
Larry Prince presented several leaves of absence requests. Superintendent Forsten spoke specifically about teacher Heather Drolet, who is Concord’s first teacher awarded the Christa McAuliffe Sabbatical. The sabbatical was created by the NH Charitable Foundation shortly after CHS teacher Christa McAuliffe was killed in the Challenger explosion.

The Board voted 8-0 to approve the leaves of absence as presented (moved by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Fennessy).

Larry Prince presented several teacher confirmations.
Jessica Anderson, English Teacher, Concord High School, $40,582, 80% of M-3. Jessica replaces Heather Ouellette-Cygan (60% of M-14 = $48,399) – transfer, and Elizabeth York (20% of M+30-14 = $16,632) – LOA. This is in addition to Jessica’s 20% ELL teacher assignment. Budgeted at $65,031

Frank Harrison, Jr., ROPE Teacher, Concord High School, $8,067, 10% of M-14, one year only. Frank is requesting a 10% leave of absence from his full-time science teacher position to continue in this assignment. Budgeted at $8,067

Heather Ouellette-Cygan, English Teacher, Concord High School, $80,665, M-14. Heather replaces Elizabeth Chambers (M+30-12 = $76,508) – retirement. Budgeted at $76,508

Sara Pratt, Science Teacher, Concord High School, $15,468, 30% of B-5. This is in addition to Sara’s 70% science teacher position. Sara held this position one-year-only for the 2016-2017 school year. Budgeted at $16,715

Kirsten Woody, Mathematics Teacher, Concord High School, $32,848, 50% of M-9. Kirsten replaces Theo-Anne Winch (50% of B-13 = $36,591) – retirement. This is in addition to Kirsten’s existing 50% mathematics teacher position. Budgeted at $27,859


Philip Klose, Stagecraft Teacher, Concord Regional Technical Center, $36,591, 50% of B-13, one year only. Clint is requesting a 50% leave of absence from his full-time music teacher position to continue in this assignment. Federal Funds

Elizabeth York, English Teacher, Concord Regional Technical Center, $16,632, 20% of M+30-14, one year only. Beth is taking a 20% leave of absence from her CHS English teacher position to continue in this assignment. Federal Funds

James Clute, Special Education Teacher, Abbot-Downing School, $40,333, 50% of M-14, one year only. Jim has requested a one-year-only leave of absence from his full-time special education teacher position to continue in this assignment. Budgeted at $27,859

Lynda Masaites, Special Education Teacher, Abbot-Downing School, $44,075, rate of B-2, one year only. Lynda replaces James Clute (rate of M-14 = $80,665) – LOA. Budgeted at $80,665

Ashley Blake, Guidance Counselor, Beaver Meadow School, $51,559, B-5. Ashley replaces Lucy Gentilhomme (M-14 = $80,665) – retirement. Budgeted at $55,718

Meredith Shepherd, Classroom Teacher, Beaver Meadow School, $24,117, 50% of M-2. Meredith replaces Margaret Barry (50% B-11 = $33,264) – retirement. Meredith was RIFed from her full-time elementary classroom teacher position for 2017-2018. Budgeted at $33,264
Jennifer Allen, Kindergarten Teacher, Christa McAuliffe School, $46,569, B-3. Jennifer replaces Diane Johnston (M-14 = $80,665) – retirement. Jennifer’s full-time kindergarten position at Mill Brook School was cut for 2017-2018. Budgeted at $55,718

Casey Barnewall, Technology Integrator, Christa McAuliffe School, $64,032, B-10, one year only. Casey replaces Heather Drolet (M-14 = $80,665) – sabbatical. Budgeted at $80,665

Mary Maccini, Special Education Teacher, Christa McAuliffe School, $41,580, B-1. Mary replaces Marissa McGahan (M-3 = $50,728) – resignation. Budgeted at $46,655 plus Federal Funds

Shawni Ogle, Classroom Teacher, Christa McAuliffe School, $44,075, B-2, one year only. Shawni replaces Casey Barnewall (B-10 = $64,032) – LOA. Shawni was RIFed from her full-time elementary classroom teacher position for 2017-2018. Budgeted at $64,032

Ernest Rowe, Special Education Teacher, Christa McAuliffe School, $41,580, B-1, one year only. Ernie replaces Dana Davidson (M-10 = $68,191) – LOA. Budgeted at $68,191

Marley Martin, Preschool Special Education Teacher, Mill Brook School, $44,075, B-2. Marley replaces Victoria Arsenault (B-9 = $61,538) – resignation. Budgeted at $61,538

Jennifer Prospere, ELL Teacher, Mill Brook School, $50,728, M-3. New position. Budgeted at $50,728

Susan Carignan, Preschool Coordinator, Preschool, $80,665, M-14. Susan replaces Barbara Hemingway (M-14 = $80,665) – retirement. Federal Funds

Larry Prince presented several coach confirmations.

Andrew Briers, Girls Varsity Field Hockey Coach, Concord High School, $3,950, Step 3, Group 6, 9.5%. Andrew replaces Bonnie Proulx

Philip Tuttle, Girls Varsity Soccer Coach, Concord High School, $5,405, Step 3, Group 3, 13.0%. Philip replaces Jeremy Duclos

Mr. Prince also asked the Board to approve coaches returning in the fall, as Director of Physical Education and Sport Steve Mello asks them to do some work over the summer.

The Board voted 8-0 to confirm the coach hires as presented, and the list of coaches returning in the fall. (moved by Mr. Croteau, seconded by Maureen Redmond-Scura).

Larry Prince presented two administrator confirmations. Mr. McCollum spoke about the selection and interview process for both candidates, noting that Cynthia Courounis was the single finalist for the Special Education Coordinator, and that both he and Superintendent Forsten had previously worked with David Bartlett in Laconia.
Cynthia Courounis, Director of Special Education, Rundlett Middle School, $103,586, Step IV. Cynthia replaces Meeta Brown, one year only. Budgeted at $115,096

David Bartlett, Assistant Principal, Rundlett Middle School, $107,422, Step IV. David replaces Ann Rines ($115,096) – retirement. Budgeted at $115,096

The Board voted 8-0 to confirm the administrator hires as presented (moved by Mr. Fennessy, seconded by Mr. Croteau).

Larry Prince presented the list of those electing to participate in the Veterans Salary Scale option. One teacher has declined the veteran salary scale for 2017-2019, and the administration is recommending Monica Unger as the next applicant, in order of seniority, from the applicant list. She will have 20 days to accept or decline the offer. These individuals will then retire in June 2019.

1. Nancy Siff, Reading Teacher, Mill Brook School – 23.50
2. Susan Gamache, Social Studies Teacher, Rundlett Middle School – 23.00
3. Patricia Fahey, Classroom Teacher, Beaver Meadow School – 23.00
4. Kathleen Sullivan, Classroom Teacher, Abbot-Downing School – 22.00
5. Norma Robinson, Occupational Therapist, Preschool & Elementary – 21.80
6. Louise Pigeon, Project SEE Teacher, Elementary – 21.00
7. Bonnie La Rochelle, Classroom Teacher, Christa McAuliffe School – 20.40
8. Jill Whitmore, Science Teacher, Rundlett Middle School – 20.00
9. John Hatab, Art Teacher, Beaver Meadow School – 20.00
10. Monica Unger, Project SEARCH Teacher, Concord High School – 19.50

The Board voted 8-0 to approve Monica Unger as the next applicant on the Veterans Salary Scale for 2017-2019 (moved by Mr. Croteau, seconded by Ms. Redmond-Scura).

Agenda Item 7. Communications and Policy

Acting Chair Tom Croteau presented the report of the committee meeting on April 5. A number of policies came before the Board for a first reading. He noted that the committee also accepted public input from several Concord parents of special needs children who requested the Board review the Restraint and Seclusion policy and offered their expertise and experience in the review process.

Policy #150 –School Board Electronic Communication. Nathan Fennessy asked whether an email received by a Board member who then circulates it to a quorum of the Board would be considered a public document (consisting of a “meeting” of the Board). Ms. Patterson suggested that an email that is not originated by a Board member but has been forwarded to Board members would not necessarily be considered a public document. Mr. Fennessy suggested tweaking the language somewhat. It was agreed this language would be worked on more before the policy is brought back for a second reading.
Policy #160 – Non-Discrimination. Mr. Croteau noted that additional language was added to this policy, and in response to a question from Mr. Fennessy about whether the NHSBA was recommending that “economic status” be added to the statement of non-discrimination, replied that this was the case.

Policy #170 – Board Member Development

Policy #171 – Board Member Conflict of Interest. Mr. Croteau noted that one sentence from NHSBA was added about appearance of a conflict of interest.

Policy #180 – Reports and Research, considered for deletion

Policy #210 – School District Calendar

Policy #211.2 – Foreign Study Abroad, considered for deletion

Policy #694 – Field Trips

Superintendent Forsten will check with NHSBA about the additional suggested language for Policy 150.

Agenda Item 8. Capital Facilities

Jim Richards gave the report of the committee’s meeting on April 10, at which summer projects, CRTC Preschool Center, and Capital Improvement projects (CIP) were discussed. The steam to natural gas conversion project is on schedule, with Mr. Cashman noting that all the schools are now on natural gas hot water heaters. The RMS Facility Study was also reviewed, including its next milestones. The committee will tour the stable building and several schools in June and over the summer.

Agenda Item 9. Instructional

Alana Kimball gave the report of the committee’s meeting on April 12. The agenda included updates on PACE, dual enrollments (35 college-credit courses available at both CHS and a college) and a discussion of CHS independent studies. There was also a discussion of the new Science Standards.

Agenda Item 10. Negotiations

Nathan Fennessy noted that the committee met on April 19 to begin preparing for negotiations with several bargaining units. This was a “non-meeting” meeting. Five contracts are expiring: CEOPA, CEA, CEAA, Maintenance/Transportation and UAW Food Service. Negotiations will be scheduled starting this fall.
Agenda Item 11. Finance

Mr. Croteau gave the report of the committee’s meeting on May 1, the purpose of which was to discuss the copier contract. The current contract expires June 30; as of March 27, the administration bid for a new contract. Mr. Croteau noted that purchasing equipment would cost $340,000 to $540,000; leasing would cost between $19,000 and $23,000 per month. Mr. Dunn said he hopes a decision will be made by Wednesday, May 10. The contract may include a copy center. In response to a question from a Board member about whether staff had been conferred with and how they felt about the possibility of a copy center, the administration responded that staff had been queried and approved. Ms. Patterson noted that as Board Policy 322 governs the bidding process, the request was that the Board approve the administration making this decision. Ms. Redmond-Scura noted that bids would determine costs to fractions of pennies per page. Mr. Dunn noted that the total of both color and b/w pages is over 12 million copies per year; or 24,000 reams of paper.

The Board voted 8-0 to authorize the administration to award the copier equipment and services contract to the provider it has determined will best fit the District’s budget and service needs. The Finance Committee shall be notified once the vendor has been chosen (motioned by Mr. Croteau, seconded by Mr. Fennessy).

Agenda Item 12. Other Business

Mr. Cogswell shared with the Board that he received an email from taxpayer Betty Hoadley reminding him of the careful use of Robert’s Rules of Order in the conduct of Board meetings, and expressed his commitment to abiding by these protocols. He then made the following statement:

“I am going to use the President’s prerogative to make a statement in our public session concerning the disclosure of confidential and non-public information. The Board recently conducted a difficult hearing (as all termination hearings are) in non-public sessions. We conducted our deliberations and voted our views at the close of that hearing, also in a non-public session. There were only eight Board members and Board counsel who knew of those votes. Nonetheless, the record of that vote appeared in the Concord Monitor. Either by accident or on purpose, one of us has to be responsible for disclosing that information. Breaking the obligation we all have to each other to keep non-public information confidential undermines the confidence we must have in one another to candidly discuss those limited matters that are appropriately designated as non-public. Furthermore, it will inhibit our open discussion of important matters. I am not interested in who disclosed the information about our vote, but I hope we can all move forward confident it won’t happen again.”
Agenda Item 13. Proposed calendar of meetings
Superintendent Forsten discussed the proposed Board committee meetings for May and June.

Agenda Item 14. Public comment
There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 15. Adjournment

The Board voted 8-0 to adjourn (motioned by Mr. Fennessy, seconded by Mr. Croteau).

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Croteau, Secretary